

Fisheries Information System (FIS) Overview

**National Vision
Joint Decisions**

**November 18, 2003
National Marine Fisheries Service**

**Relaboration
Laminations
Laminations**



Mission

...NMFS to create an umbrella program to coordinate techniques used to gather and disseminate data on a national basis while continuing to account for the unique characteristics of regional commercial and recreational fisheries...

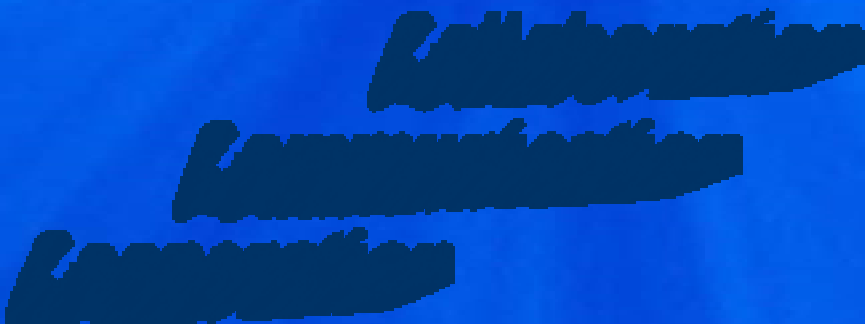
- FY 98 Senate Mark

*Recreation
Commercial
Commercial*



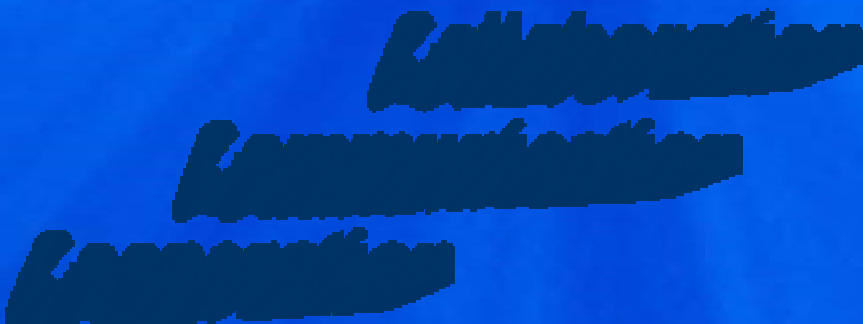
Background

- 1996 Reauthorization of Magnuson Stevens FCMA
- Section 401: Secretary must create an implementation plan for a nationwide
 - Fisheries Information System (FIS)
 - Fishing Vessel Registration System (VRS)
 - Commercial/Charter Recreational



Background (Cont.)

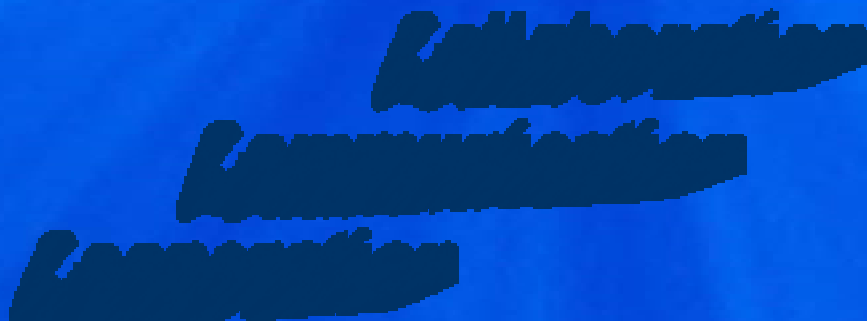
- The Vessel Registration System (VRS) will enable fisheries managers to uniquely identify every US vessel engaged in commercial and recreational for-hire fishing.
- Using the unique vessel identifier from the VRS as a link, the FIS will associate with each vessel a record of its fishing activities, including landings, fishing location, gear used, time periods of fishing, and other data recorded in regional data systems.
- Data in the VRS/FIS system will be available as necessary to assist in the issuance of permits and for other systems requiring vessel and ownership data.



Background (Cont.)

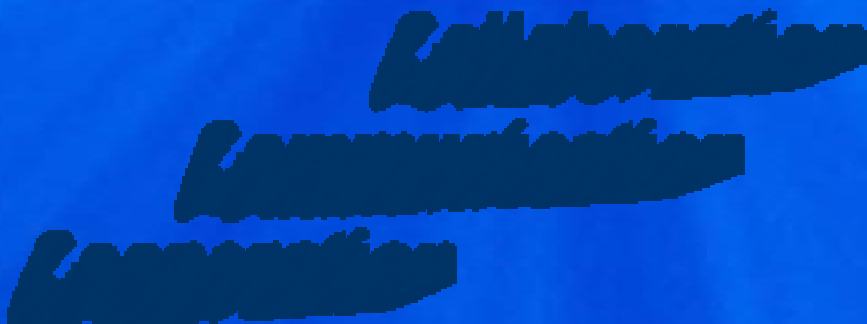
FIS Conceptual Model

- Integration/harmonization of fisheries data collection and management (virtual system).
- Regional implementation in cooperation with ... the States, the Councils and the Marine Fisheries Commissions.
- Highly collaborative process with stakeholder involvement
- Data linkage using common vessel/participant identifiers



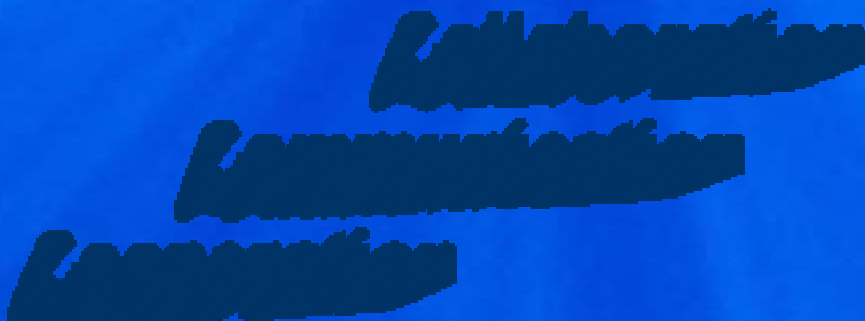
Business Requirements

- Have adequate information to manage fisheries regionally and provide summarized data on a national level
- Answer who, what, where, when, why and how about participation in fisheries across regions using nationally established reporting standards



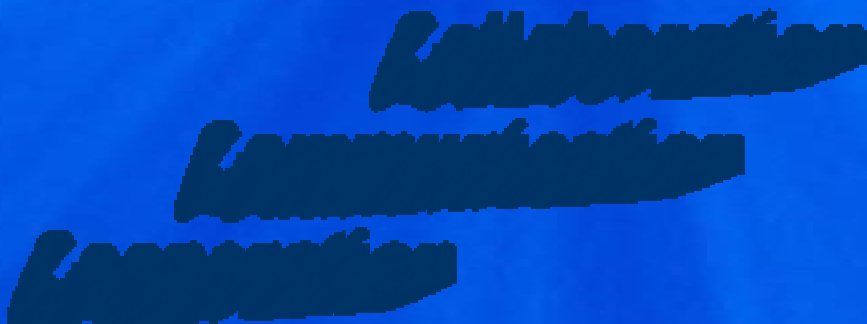
Near Term Action Items

- Integrate Federal and State data on trip based catch, effort, performance, and economic data collection.
- Initiate inter-regional comparisons to establish and uniformly define core data elements for common fisheries systems (landings, logbooks, permits, biological sampling).
- Continue progress in transition planning and system development guidelines.
- Expand and generalize current initiatives in Permits, Meta Data, and Electronic Reporting.



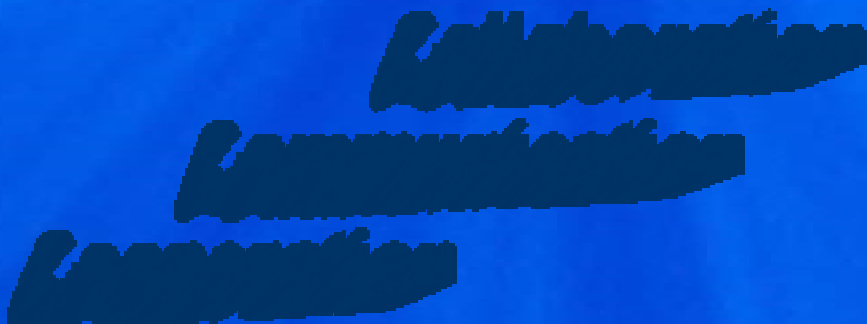
Changes Since FIS was Chartered

- Substantial progress in integrating regional data collection and archiving through cooperative regional forums.
- State and NMFS Regional Offices are continually upgrading fisheries statistics programs.
- FIS funded development initiatives are coming on line.
- Data Quality Act refocused attention to metadata.



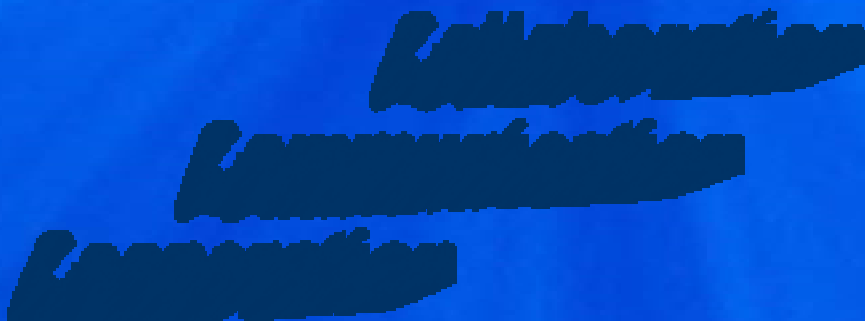
Benefits - Nationwide

- Improved information available for national fisheries management discussions.
- Leveraging of limited resources across partner agencies to deliver more detailed, timely and appropriate data.
- Reduced data handling burden and duplicative system development across regions.
- Increased access to data for all clients at the appropriate levels of detail and specificity.
- Enhanced communication and professional credibility.



Benefits - Regional

- Improved information for regional and cross-regional fisheries management decisions.
- Reduced staff burden responding to national level requests for summarized data.
- Greater compatibility of information supporting daily business operations.
- Assistance from S&T and cross-regional cooperation with IT application development and data conversion.
- Assistance from S&T and cross-regional cooperation with implementation coding and meta data standards.



FIS CHARGE

Associate with each vessel a record of its fishing activities, including landings, fishing location, gear used, time periods of fishing, and participation data.

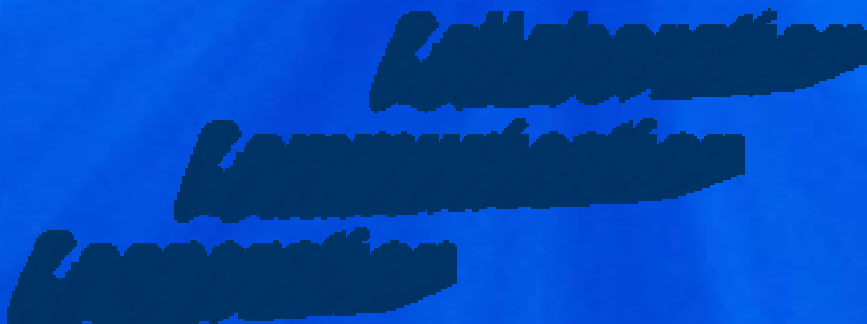
Reluctance
Lack of information
Lack of resources



Draft

Minimum Variable List for National FIS

For each trip: year, month, state, port, species,
pounds landed, landed value, gear, disposition,
unique vessel ID, unique dealer ID,
NMFS region or State detailed record ID,
fishing area designation (FAO grids, distance from
shore – sub-trip areas in regional detailed databases).



FIS Funding

- AKFSC
- NERO
- NWFSC
- PIFSC
- PIRO
- SEFSC
- SWFSC
- SWRO



National Vision
Joint Decisions

Key To Success

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Cooperation

Collaboration
Communication
Cooperation

